

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, AORG, APER

SUBJECT: FAO: DIMINISHING RULE OF U.S. NATIONALS

REF: STATE 081076.

SUMMARY- U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO FULLY SHARES WASHINGTON CONCERN ABOUT DIMINISHMENT OF ROLE OF U.S. NATIONALS IN FAO. HE BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT RECENT APPOINTMENT OF GERMAN TO A WASHINGTON LIAISON OFFICE POSITION IS NOT GOOD BASIS FOR REPRESENTATIONS AND THAT REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN GENERAL TERMS TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL JACKSON, AND POSSIBLY DIRECTOR GENERAL BOERMA.

1. UNITED STATES HAS NOT BEEN FARING WELL IN RECENT APPOINTMENTS TO FAO POSITIONS, AND ITS PERCENTAGE OF FAO POSITIONS HAS BEEN DECLINING. THIS IS ABNORMAL PERIOD IN WHICH MORITURIUM IS IN EFFECT ON FILLING TOP POSITIONS, PENDING ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL BY FAO CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER. BUT THERE IS DANGER THAT ROLE OF U.S. NATIONAL MAY BE DIMINISHED AT LOWER LEVELS IN INTERIM, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO BEGIN TO EXPRESS ITS CONCERN ABOUT PROBLEM TO PREVENT THIS AND TO PREPARE TO PUSH FOR KEY TOP POSITIONS NOW AFFECTED BY MORITURIUM.

2. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO BELIEVES CASE OF RECENT EMPLOY-  
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MENT OF GERMAN NATIONAL IN NORTH AMERICAN LIAISON OFFICE IN

WASHINGTON IS NOT GOOD ONE AND ON WHICH TO BASE EXPRESSION OF U.S. CONCERN, FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

A) WHEN U.S. REPRESENTATIVE CHECK THIS APPOINTMENT SOME WEEKS AGO, RELATIVELY SENIOR FAO OFFICIAL OF U.S. NATIONALITY, WHO IS MEMBER OF PERSONNEL PANEL WHICH REVIEWED CASE, AID THAT DECISION HAD BEEN MADE BY KIMMEL, U.S. NATIONAL, HEAD OF LIAISON OFFICE, ON BASIS OF BEST QUALIFICATIONS, AND THAT PANEL HAD FULLY CONCURRED. (THAT THERE IS NO PATTERN OF SELECTING NON-AMERICANS FOR WASHINGTON OFFICE IS EVIDENCED BY FACT THAT A.M. HIRSCH (U.S. NATIONAL) HAS JUST BEEN SELECTED TO FILL ECONOMIST POSITION P-5, NO. 690-DDD.)

B) U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FORESEES THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT PROBABLY WILL NEED TO OPPOSE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S PROPOSAL TO DECENTRALIZE FAO OPERATIONS AND ENLARGE STAFFS OF FAO REGIONAL OFFICES, IN WHICH CASE OUR INSISTENCE ON EMPLOYMENT OF U.S. NATIONAL IN WASHINGTON LIAISON OFFICE MIGHT SEEM SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT. THIS DECENTRALIZATION ISSUE WILL SURELY BE HIGHLY IMPORTANT IN MAY FAO FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AND JUNE FAO COUNCIL. PROPOSAL IS TO ENLARGE ALREADY LARGE AFRICAN, ASIAN, AND LATIN AMERICAN STAFFS. ONE ASPECT OF PROBLEM IS THAT PERSONNEL ARE SELECTED FROM NATIONALS OF COUNTRIES INVOLVED AND REPRESENT LOCAL VIEWS RATHER THAN CENTRAL FAO VIEWS. IN THIS CONTEXT, IT MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT AWKWARD AND INCONSISTENT TO PRESS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF U.S. NATIONALS IN ALL WASHINGTON REGIONAL OFFICE POSTS.

3. REPRESENTATION OF U.S. CONCERN ABOUT GENERAL PROBLEM WOULD APPROPRIATELY BE MADE TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL ROY JACKSON, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF FAO ADMINISTRATION, AND POSSIBLY TO DIRECTOR GENERAL BOERMA. JACKSON IS NOW IN GENEVA AT LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE, AND WILL RETURN ONLY MOMENTARILY BEFORE TRIP TO CANADA, U.S., JAPAN AND CHINA. SUGGEST THAT REPRESENTATION OF CONCERN BE MADE TO HIM AT HIGH LEVEL DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN LAST WEEK OF APRIL, AND ALSO TO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE ED WEST, WHO WILL BE WITH HIM. REPRESENTATIONS TO PERSONNEL DIRECTOR THOMASSON OR HIS SUBORDINATES INVOLVED IN PERSONNEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROCEDURES SHOULD BE MADE HERE, BUT WILL HAVE LITTLE EFFECT.

4. SUGGEST ALSO THAT WHEN OTHER COUNTRIES SOLICIT OUR SUPPORT FOR THEIR CANDIDATES FOR FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL, WE TAKE OCCASION TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT U.S. NATIONALS CONTINUE TO PLAY ROLE IN FAO APPROPRIATE TO U.S. IMPORTANCE IN FOOD-AGRICULTURE FIELD. BEAUDRY

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